



January 28, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O.Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572  
28 Davis Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject: | Serial No. 10/718,082 11/20/03 |

Clarence W. Shonnard

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CUTTING  
AND HARVESTING INFESTATIONS OF  
AQUATIC VEGETATION AND/OR SKIMMING  
ALGAE/FLOATING VEGETATION

#### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation  
In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to  
comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and  
37 CFR 1.56.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class  
mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 2, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SBA", followed by the date "2/2/04" written vertically.

The following twelve U.S. Patents each disclose methods for cutting plants using a drag bar with a cutting edge:

- 1) U.S. Patent 6,250,054 to Kramer, "Device for Removal of Aquatic Vegetation."
- 2) U.S. Patent 2,065,733 to A. Pearson, "Moss Rake for Canals."
- 3) U.S. Patent 2,702,975 to A.W. Friesen, "Underwater Weed Cutter."
- 4) U.S. Patent 2,790,297 to E.W. Gardner, "Hand Rake with Guard Attachment."
- 5) U.S. Patent 3,601,956 to A.O. Akermanis, "Underwater Cutting Device."
- 6) U.S. Patent 4,137,693 to Thompson et al., "Rake Device for Removing Weeds from Lakes."
- 7) U.S. Patent 4,375,299 to Laven, "Aquatic Weeder."
- 8) U.S. Patent 3,863,237 to Doerr, "Lake Raking Apparatus."
- 9) U.S. Patent 4,696,149 to Hawk, "Aquatic Weed Control Method and Apparatus."
- 10) U.S. Patent 4,852,337 to Peterson, "Method and Apparatus for Removing Aquatic Plants."
- 11) U.S. Patent 5,189,867 to Schmidt, "Aquatic Vegetation Cutter."
- 12) 5,493,850 to Torkelson, "Lake Bottom Plant and Debris Gathering Apparatus with Improved Actuation and Cleaning of Raking Mechanism."

U.S. Patent 4,999,982 to Kriger, "Weeder for Inland Waterways," describes the use of a dragging bar for cutting aquatic plants.

U.S. Patent 4,583,353 to Shaver, "Underwater Weed Cutter," discloses a triangular drag bar for cutting plants.

U.S. Patent 4,616,588 to Caddick, "Water Craft and Method for Removing Weeds and Pollutants from Navigable Waters," discloses a navigable water craft having a first tool mounted on the bow area for removing pollutants.

U.S. Patent 3,238,708 to F.L. Zickefoose, "Aquatic Weed Cutter," discloses an apparatus designed primarily to economically cut and harvest underwater marine plant life such a seaweed.

U.S. Patent 5,404,696 to Vasby, "Aquatic-weed Removal Machine," discloses an aquatic-weed removing machine.

U.S. Patent 4,945,996 to Codding, "Rake and Soil Conditioner," discloses a farm or garden implement capable of raking or soil conditioning as desired.

U.S. Patent 5,287,935 to Foeller, "Garden Weeding and Landscaping Tool," discloses a manual tool for cutting and removing weeds and grass from gardens and landscaping beds.

Sincerely,



Stephen B. Ackerman,  
Reg. No. 37761

1012

Form PTO-1449

Docket Number (Optional)

WS-02-001 CIP

Application Number

101718,082

Applicant

Clarence W. Shonnard

Filing Date

11/20/03

Drawn At This

OIP INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION  
FEB 06 2004 (Use several sheets if necessary)

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	PUBLISH DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	62500546/26/01		Kramer	56	8	12/7/98
	206573312/29/36		A. Pearson			1/13/34
	270297531/1/55		A.W. Friesen	56	8	5/24/52
	27902974/30/57		E.W. Gardner	56	400.14	3/4/54
	36019568/31/71		A.O. Akermanis	56	8	2/24/69
	41376932/6/79		Thompson et al.	56	8	5/12/77
	43752993/1/83		Laren	294	19 R	1/29/81
	38632371/28/75		Doerr	15	1.7	12/10/73
	46961499/29/87		Hawk	56	8	9/27/85
	48523378/1/89		Peterson	56	8	8/31/87
	51898673/2/93		Schmidt	56	8	10/15/89

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Page No., Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Docto Number (Optional) <b>WS 02-001 CIP</b>	Applicat Number <b>10/718,082</b>	
				Applicant <b>Clarence W. Shownard</b>	Filing Date <b>11/20/03</b>	
				Group Art Unit		
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLAS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5493850	2/27/96	Torkelson	56	8	12/12/94
	49999823	1/9/91	Kriger	56	8	3/2/90
	45833534	4/22/86	Shaver	56	8	9/14/84
	4616588	10/14/86	Caddick	114	162	1/9/85
	3238708	3/8/66	F.L. Zickefoose	56	9	8/10/64
	5404696	4/11/95	Vasby	56	9	10/20/93
	4945996	8/7/90	Coddling	172	233	12/12/88
	5287935	2/22/94	Foeller	172	136	12/9/92
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLAS	Translation YES      NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Page, Etc.)						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			
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